

2020 Invasive Species Report*

Since its 2019 report the Invasive Species Committee has spent about 290 hours working on the eradication of noxious weed species at Three Meadows. Only those plant species that are listed by the Washington State Noxious Weed Control Board were targeted. Participants in the effort included Chairman Jim Vedder and Rita and Chuck O'Clair. During this period the committee has focused primarily on the removal of three Class C noxious weeds: Himalayan blackberry, *Rubus armeniacus*, the narrow-leaved cattail, *Typha angustifolia*, and English (red) hawthorn, *Crataegus monogyna*.

During the period covered by this report one of us (RO) cut and removed 29 cu yds of Himalayan blackberry plants primarily along the side of Three Meadows Lane west of the Forest Pond.

The narrow-leaved cattail, the identity of which has been verified by Jenifer Parsons, Aquatic Plant Specialist of the Washington State Department of Ecology, has colonized the Forest Pond. In recent weeks one of us (CO) has pulled and removed 150 of these plants from the pond. Many more plants of this species remain to be removed from the pond.

Since the 2019 Invasive Species Report, work has continued on the removal or cutting and poisoning of English hawthorn plants (for methods see the 2019 report). This work has taken place primarily in an area on both sides of Three Meadows Lane at the base of the peninsula on the eastern side of the marsh. A total of 876 English Hawthorn have been pulled or cut and poisoned during the period of this report. Most of the plants (97%) were small and were pulled with a weed wrench. In addition, one of us (JV) removed about 60 cu yds of English Hawthorn in a hedgerow adjacent to his property.

In addition to the three main species focused on during the period covered by this report fewer numbers of the Class B weeds, Spurge Laurel, *Daphne laureola*, (27), and Scotch Broom, *Cytisus scoparius*, (10) were removed from the common lands of Three Meadows. The hawthorn, broom, blackberry and narrow-leaved cattail plants were or will be burned. The Spurge Laurel plants were bagged for deposit at the San Juan Transfer Station.

Submitted by,

Chuck O'Clair,

6 September 2020*, revised